

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL**  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2016**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- Mayor Fulkerson called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. Council members in attendance: Miller, West, Fulkerson, Baker. **Winnett was absent.**
- City Staff in attendance: City Manager Dan Berman, City Clerk Gabriel Adams.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION – *No closed session.***

**IV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

**V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Motion (Baker/Miller) to approve the agenda as written. Passed 4-0.*

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 10, 2015 cc, November 16 scc, December 09 cc.**

*Motion (Baker/Miller) to approve the minutes as amended. Passed 4-0.*

**VII. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS:**

**West:** Reported that HCAOG Chairman Susan Ornealas resigned, and Ryan Sundberg is the new chairman. Discussed Little River Trail project.

**Baker:** Nothing to report.

**Miller:** Reported that RCEA discussed PG&E Community Choice Aggregate Customers may end up paying a higher rate. RCEA also assists residents and businesses replace old light bulbs with energy efficient ones. Gateway Coastal National Monument meeting discussed how the impact of NO crab season is having on the Harbor businesses.

**Fulkerson:** There are over 100 jobs available in the Humboldt County school system.

**VIII. STAFF REPORTS:**

City Manager Berman submitted a report to the City Council at the meeting highlighting various accomplishments and project status for the month of December.

**IX. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:**

**Kathleen Lake – Trinidad**

Submitted a statement to the Council explaining that she now supports only owner-occupied Vacation Rentals in residential zones, and changed her previous opinion that VDU's be banned in residential zones. The letter also encourages the city to enforce the municipal code, and suggests that the City not be concerned with the California Coastal Commission's opinion supporting vacation rentals in Trinidad.

**Tom Davies – Trinidad**

Asked the City to have legal counsel present during Planning Commission meetings. Interpretations of specific words and definitions in the amended ordinance should be considered before approval, not after.

**Leslie Farrar – Trinidad**

Asked the City to reconsider VDU's in residential areas.

**Pat Morales – Trinidad**

Requested a report of how many VDU's permit applications are incomplete. She also asked the City Manager to keep a log of all calls and/or meetings concerning controversial issues.

**Katherine Wayne – Trinidad Area/Chamber of Commerce**

TCBR needs volunteers. The Holiday Ball was a huge success, and thanked Marian Strong for being an excellent race director this year.

**X. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Motion (Miller/Baker) to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Passed 4-0.*

**XI. DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA:**

1. Trinidad Volunteer Fire Department Recognition and Slide Show Presentation of recent activity.  
Trinidad Fire Chief Tom Marquette and Volunteer Jerry Simone presented photographs of recent activity, highlighting TVFD operations and personnel. He introduced volunteers Tom Davies, Dick Kieselhorst, Laura Scott, Ben Hawkins, Brett Gregory, and Jerry Simone. He explained that there was 72 calls in 2015, and of those calls, 46 were medical and 4 were structure fires.

There was no public comment.

*Mayor Fulkerson and fellow Council members presented the Fire Chief and Volunteers a certificate of appreciation for all their work and effort to keep Trinidad safe.*

2. Discussion/Decision to select Mayor and Mayor pro-tem  
*Motion (Baker/West) to appoint Dwight Miller as Mayor, and Jack West as Mayor Pro-Tem. Passed 4-0.*

3. Review and consider possible changes to Council Committee Assignments  
*Bring back to a future meeting when all 5 members are present.*

4. Approve allocation of TOT revenue to community organizations  
City Manager Berman explained that in 2013 the City Council agreed to allocate 10% of the total, annual Tourist Occupancy Tax revenue for community organizations. The Chamber of Commerce, Museum, and Library agreed among themselves to distribute that amount every year to each organization proportionately.

The total, audited Occupancy Tax revenue from 2014-2015 was **\$114,556**. The City will be issuing 10% of the total revenue (\$11,455) to each organization in the following payments:

60%	<b>\$6,873</b>	Greater Trinidad Chamber of Commerce
30%	<b>\$3,436</b>	Trinidad Museum
10%	<b>\$1,146</b>	Trinidad Library

There was no public comment.

*By consensus, the Council authorized the budgeted amounts to be paid to each community group.*

5. Review and Discuss 2016 Calendar  
City Manager Berman presented the Council with a calendar of events and subsequent 2016 monthly deadlines to address each topic, including; VDU amendments, Sales Tax extension, November City Council member election, and budget preparations.

*There was no decision made. Informational item only.*

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting ended at 7:35pm.

**Submitted by:**

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**Gabriel Adams**  
City Clerk

**Approved by:**

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**Dwight Miller**  
Mayor